

**Department of Historic Resources  
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

**Accomack**

**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0114**

**Resource Identification**

Property Name(s): ..... WFF # Y-025 Propellant Magazine  
{Historic/Current}  
Property Date: ..... 1950  
Address(s): ..... Island Road {Current}  
County/Independent City: Accomack  
Vicinity of: ..... Chincoteague  
State, Zip: ..... Virginia 23337  
USGS Quad Name: ..... WALLOPS ISLAND  
Surrounding area: ..... Rural

**National Register Eligibility Status**

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Property has not been evaluated

**Resource Description**

Ownership Status: ..... Public - Federal  
Acreage: ..... 0.5

**Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:**

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - Interior stove flue	Metal	
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Roof	other		
Structural System	other		

Site Description: ..... Located on the west side of Island Road on Wallops Island in a flat, level area to the south of Y-45 Igniter Magazine (001-0027-0118).

**WUZIT Count:**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Magazine	Historic

**NR Resource Count:**

**Individual Resource Information**

WUZIT: ..... Magazine

Est. Date of Construction: .... 1950 {Oral/written data} Accessed? ..... No Not accessible

Primary Resource? ..... Yes Number of Stories: ..... 1.0

Architectural Style: ..... Other Condition: ..... Good

Interior Plan Type: ..... Other Threats to Resource: ..... None Known

Description: The concrete building is set on a concrete slab foundation and buried under mounded earth with the west elevation left exposed. The west elevation is triangular in shape with a rounded top corner, and is made of concrete incised with vertical lines to create a series of five panels. A set of steel doors is set in the center of the center panel, at the top of a concrete platform. The top of the platform is accessed by a ramp on the north side and a set of stairs on the south, both of which have a steel guardrail on the outside edge. The platform is set at the end of a drive aligned perpendicular to the access drive. The doors are sheltered from above by a cantilevered steel canopy. Two small square window openings, each with a fixed, pane steel sash, are set just above the canopy on the west elevation to provide light to the interior. A steel vent pipe with a rounded, hemispherical cap is located at the east end of the building, projecting above the grass-covered earth that covers the top, sides, and back ends of the building.

**Cemetery Information**

**Bridge Information**

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***National Register Eligibility Information***

*Historic Context(s):* ..... Technology/Engineering

*Historic Time Period(s):*..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

*Significance Statement:* This one-story building was built in 1950 by NACA and was part of the first phase of permanent NACA construction efforts on Wallops Island. The building has been used since its construction to store explosive propellants used to fuel rockets. The building is now part of WFF and is located on Wallops Island in a fenced area on the west side of Island Road, across from Launch Area #2 (001-0027-0116, WFF# Y-035). It is located between two similar buildings and behind a tall steel lattice radio/meteorological tower (WFF# Y-085), which was not included in this survey.

The building is associated with a technology/engineering property type built during the New Dominion Period (1945 – present) period. The building was constructed as a component of a rocket research facility operated by the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station (PARS) under the direction of NACA from 1946 to 1958. Until becoming part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958, PARS functioned as a rocket research facility that continually refined its capacity to collect aeronautic and scientific data through improvements in radar tracking, radio telemetry, and photographic techniques that provided significant data for the development of Cold War missile technology and manned spaceflight during the Space Race. The Propellant Magazine has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the demolition of many of the buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959), the removal of much of the historic fabric from the majority of extant buildings, and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. It does not by itself sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with events in order to be eligible under Criterion A, nor does it sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with a person in order to be eligible under Criterion B. While the resource retains its location, setting and association, as a secondary resource of common design and materials, the resource is not eligible under Criterion C as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This property does not have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory under Criterion D.

***Bibliographic Documentation***

*Reference #:* 1

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Book

*Author:* ..... Joseph Adams Shortal

*Citation Abbreviation:* .....

*Notes:* ..... Shortal, Joseph Adams. "A New Dimension—Wallops Island Flight Test Range: The First Fifteen Years." National Aeronautics and Space Administration Scientific and Technical Information Office: 1978.

***Ownership Information***

***Graphic Media Documentation***

<u>Medium</u>	<u>Depository ID #</u>	<u>Photo Depository</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Name</u>
35MM B&W	21543	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 8-11

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***Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events***

*CRM Event # 1,*

<i>Cultural Resource Management Event: .....</i>	Reconnaissance Survey
<i>Date: .....</i>	2004/07/99
<i>Organization or Person: .....</i>	URS Group
<i>VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: ..</i>	2003-0571
<i>CRM Event Notes or Comments: .....</i>	200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101 Gaithersburg, MD 20878

*CRM Event # 2,*

<i>Cultural Resource Management Event: .....</i>	Reconnaissance Survey
<i>Date: .....</i>	2003/08/08
<i>Organization or Person: .....</i>	URS Group
<i>VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: ..</i>	2003-0571
<i>CRM Event Notes or Comments: .....</i>	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700 Bethesda, MD 20814